



— State of —
North Dakota
Office of the Governor
John Hoeven
Governor

PROCLAMATION
ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH
NOVEMBER 2005

WHEREAS, every child in America, every child in North Dakota deserves a permanent, loving family and home; and

WHEREAS, through adoption, children have an opportunity for a brighter future, while bringing great joy to their adoptive families; and

WHEREAS, last year, 344 adoptions took place in North Dakota, with 95 children adopted from foster care, 20 adoptions of foreign born children, 48 healthy infant adoptions and 181 children adopted by their step-parent; and

WHEREAS, today, there are children in foster care in our state who do not have an identified adoptive family and are waiting for a loving, permanent home, and nearly all of these children have special needs that require extra patience and support to help them overcome previous hardships; and

WHEREAS, Adoption Awareness Month is an opportunity to increase awareness on behalf of children in North Dakota who are waiting for a family and to encourage North Dakotans to promote the value of family by supporting children in need of permanent homes and the families who adopt them.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim November 2005, **ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH** in the state of North Dakota.

/s/
John Hoeven
Governor

Attest:

/s/
Alvin A. Jaeger
Secretary of State